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STATEMENT OF SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON JOB REPORT

WASHINGTON, DC— Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, issued the following statement on today's report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, which showed that employers cut 4,000 jobs in August—the first drop in the number of jobs since 2003:

"These job losses demonstrate that our economy is headed in the wrong direction. The overall economic growth that has been taking place in recent years can no longer hide the fact that large numbers of working families are suffering. Major job losses in construction and manufacturing demonstrate that good jobs are increasingly hard to find. The pressure of home foreclosures, high fuel prices and escalating health costs continue to squeeze millions of hardworking families. It's time for a change in course—Americans want and deserve an economy that works for them, not just for the wealthy elite who are monopolizing more and more of the nation's wealth and productivity."

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